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# **Identification of Larvae of Australian Baetidae**

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# **Abstract**

Identification keys are provided for larvae of 57 species of Baetidae from Australia for the genera *Bungona* (2 spp), *Centroptilum* (10 spp), *Cloeon* (7 spp), *Offadens* (32 spp), *Platybaetis* (1 sp), and *Pseudocloeon* (5 spp). Species concepts were formed by using a combination of morphological characters and nuclear and mitochondrial DNA sequences. The total number of Baetidae species in Australia isn't yet known as five species of *Centroptilum* and *Cloeon* known from adults have not yet been associated with larvae.

## Introduction

The Baetidae is the largest family of mayflies, with over 900 described species and 100 genera globally (Gattolliat and Nieto, 2009). The first baetid described from Australia was *Baetis soror* Ulmer from Western Australia. Prior to the 1980s virtually all baetids were placed into the genera *Baetis* Leach, *Centroptilum* Eaton, *Cloeon* Leach, and *Pseudocloeon* Klapálek, and the same pattern was followed in Australia. In recent decades, however, all of these genera have been found to be artificial and polyphyletic and numerous new genera have been established.

The most significant contribution to the knowledge of Australian Baetidae is the identification keys produced by Suter (1997), where 9 genera and 23 morphospecies of running water taxa were treated. Prior to this, only 13 species were known from Australia: *Baetis baddamsae* Harker; *B. confluens* Harker; *B. frater* Tillyard; *B. soror* Ulmer; *Bungona narilla* Harker; *Centroptilum collendum* Harker; *C. elongatum* Suter, 1986; *Cloeon fluviatile* Ulmer,; *C. nandirum* Harker; *C. paradieniense* Suter; *C. tasmaniae* Tillyard; C. *virens* Klapálek; *Pseudocloeon kraepelini* Klapálek.

Since 1997, several species and genera were described by Lugo-Ortiz and McCafferty from Purdue University, USA. *Offadens* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty was established for *O. sobrinus* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty and *O. soror* (Ulmer), and *Edmundsiops* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty was established for *E. instigatus* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty. *Cloeodes fustipalpus* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty and *Cloeodes illiesi* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty were described from a small series of specimens, but were later synonymised with *Bungona narilla* (Suter and Pearson 2001). Three species of *Pseudocloeon* were also described by Lugo-Ortiz *et al.* (1999): *P. hypodelum* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty; *P. inconspicuum* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty. None of the species described by Lugo-Ortiz and McCafferty were compared to the morphospecies identified by Suter (1997).

Suter also described two species since 1997: *Platybaetis* gagadjuensis Suter from the Northern Territory (Suter 2000), and *Edmundsiops hickmani* Suter from eastern Australia. *Bungona narilla, Cloeon tasmaniae*, and *Offadens frater* were redescribed (Suter 2000, Suter and Pearson 2001).

The current study increases the total number of Baetidae larvae known from Australia to 57 species, although the number of species can vary depending on interpretation of the molecular data. Five species are known only from adults and are not included in the keys. It is likely these species are conspecific with undescribed species already included.

Some parts of this study are still preliminary, and the specific status of some groups remain unclear. Many taxa have been identified as being genetically distinct, but diagnostic morphological characters remain elusive. In some cases, the adult stages differ among cryptic larvae.

This study re-examines the status of Australian baetid species and genera and provides identification keys for species from all genera. Species limits and generic concepts were based on a combination of molecular, morphological, and biogeographical data. Whenever possible, voucher codes established by Suter (1997) have been retained or updated to reflect currently named species and genera.

# Morphological Characters Used in Keys to Baetidae

#### **Mouthparts**

The various mouthparts are useful for generic differentiation and in some genera, species differentiation. An overview of the different mouthparts is provided in Figure 1. The labrum is the anterior most mouthpart, followed posteriorly by a pair of mandibles, a hypopharynx, a pair of maxillae, and a labium.

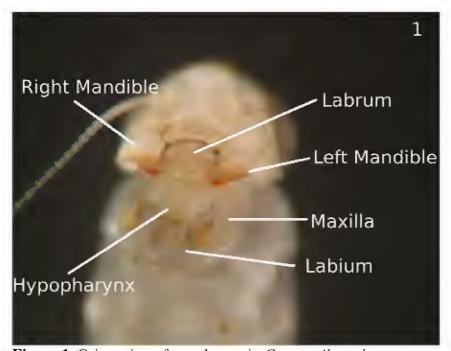


Figure 1. Orientation of mouthparts in Centroptilum elongatum.

The anterior margin of the labrum generally has a small median notch (Fig 3), but in *Centroptilum* the whole of the anterior margin is excavated and the medial notch has a small pair of tooth like projections (Fig 2).



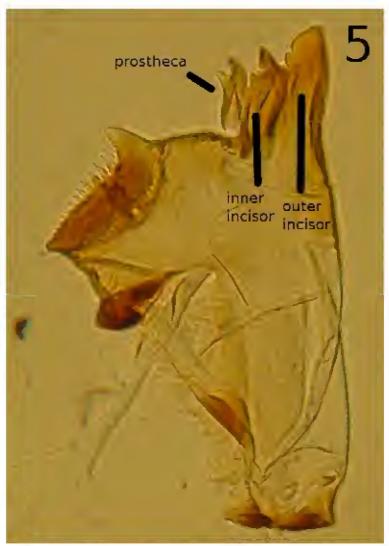


**Figures 2, 3** Dorsal view of labrum. **2**, *Centroptilum elongatum*; **3**, *Pseudocloeon inconspicuum*.

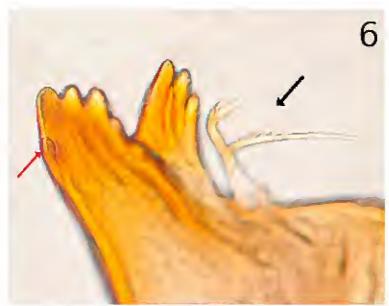
The mandibles consist of an outer and inner pair of incisors, a small prostheca attached near the base of the inner incisor, and a mola. The right (Fig 4) and left (Fig 5) mandibles are

similar in structure, but differ in the orientation of the molars, with the right mandible have a flat or planate molar, and the left mandible having an angulate molar. Examining the area between the molar and prostheca and determining whether the prostheca is forked (Fig 6) or simple on the right mandible is essential for differentiating species in *Offadens*. The incisors can be variously fused, and the number of apical teeth and the presence (Fig 6) or absence of a small lateral tooth are useful for differentiating some species.





Figures 4, 5. Ventral view of mandibles. 4, right mandible; 5, left mandible.



**Figure 6**. Incisors of right mandible of *Bungona illiesi*, with a lateral tooth on the outer incisor (left arrow), and a forked prostheca (right arrow).

The maxillae (Fig 7) are composed of a two or three segmented palp, a fused galealacinia, and a crown of several rows of setae and and four apical denticles/spines. At the base of the galealacinia is generally a small row of basal setae and a single median hump seta. The right and left maxillae are usually identical.



Figure 7. Maxilla of Centroptilum sp.

The hypopharynx (Fig 8) is located in the middle of the other mouthparts. Its shape can be of phylogenetic significance, but it generally isn't used diagnostically.

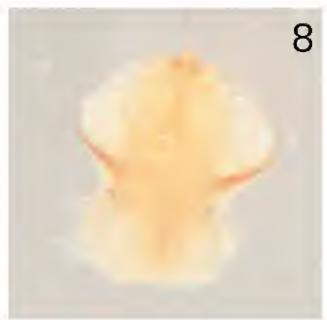
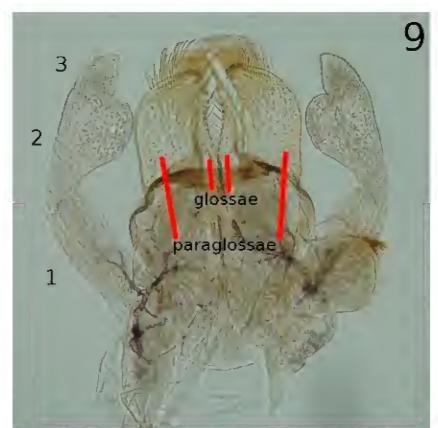


Figure 8. Hypopharynx of *Centroptilum* sp.

The labium (Fig 9) consists of a pair of three segmented palps, an outer pair of paraglossae, and an inner pair of glossae. The shape of the palps, particularly the medial development of segment two, can be a useful character for diagnosing some species. The relative width of the glossae and paraglossae are useful for identifying genera such as *Pseudocloeon* and *Platybaetis*.



**Figure 9**. Labium of *Pseudocloeon inconspicuum* with palp segments numbered.

## Legs

The legs consist of a basal coxa, trochanter, femur, tibia, tarsus, and a tarsal claw (Fig 10). The coxa and trochanter are generally not useful for diagnosis, but the other segments of the legs are relied upon heavily in these keys. The length of the claws relative to the tarsi can be diagnostic for some genera, as can the shape of the claw. The femur (Fig 11) has a dorsal row of setae which can vary in size, shape and number. Near the apex of the femur is usually a pair of medium to large subapical robust setae (Figs 11 & 12), and the rounded apex of the femora has several robust setae of varying size and usually some scattered fine setae (Fig 12). The anterior surface (Fig 11) of the femur has several small to medium robust setae of varying shape and frequently has fine setae as well. The ventral margin of the femur has few to many short robust setae of varying shape and sometimes has

numerous fine setae as well. Setae are generally absent on the posterior surface of the femur, except in *Cloeon*.

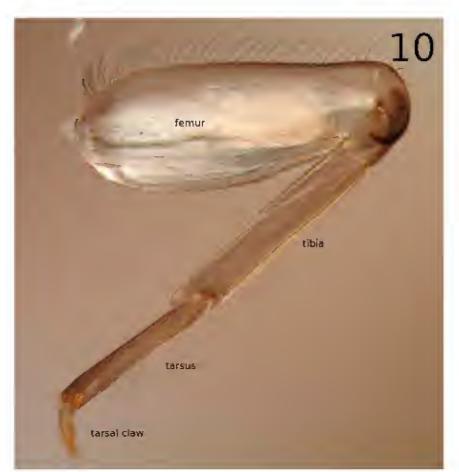


Figure 10. Leg segments.



Figure 11. Femur.



Figure 12. Apex of femur.

The tibia has several characters of taxonomic importance. The outer margin usually has a row of robust setae of varying size and shape, and near the apex of the outer margin is usually a distinct robust seta. In some species the subapical seta is extremely long (as in Fig 13), but in most species it is a moderate length. A few species lack the subapical seta completely or its presence is unclear due to the presence of a very long row of robust setae on the outer margin. The inner

margin generally has numerous robust setae in scattered rows.

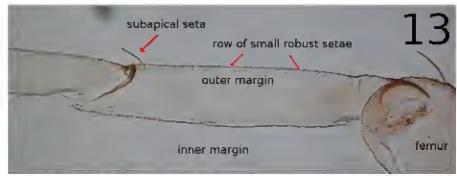


Figure 13. Tibia.

The tarsus (Fig 14) is of less use than the other leg segments for diagnosis. The tarsus generally has at least one inner row of robust setae, and the outer margin may have robust setae as well

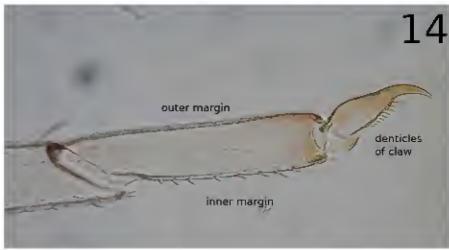


Figure 14. Tarsus and tarsal claw.

The tarsal claw bears either one or two rows of denticles. In some species there is a small subapical seta that is of taxonomic use. The seta, however, is often difficult to see and is prone to breakage. If it cannot be determined whether a seta is present, the leg may be placed on a microscope slide with a small amount of water or alcohol and a coverslip and examined with a compound microscope.

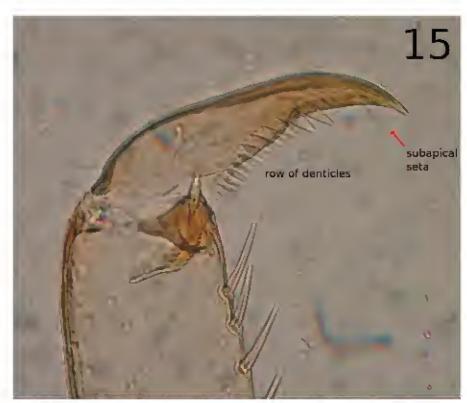


Figure 15. Tarsal claw of an Offadens species.

The thorax consists of three segments, the prothorax, mesothorax, and metathorax, the dorsal portions of which are the pro-, meso-, and metanota. The ventral portions of the thorax are the sterna. All species have a conspicuous pair of wingpads on the mesonotum (Fig 16). The size of the wingpads increases with every moult and in the last instar

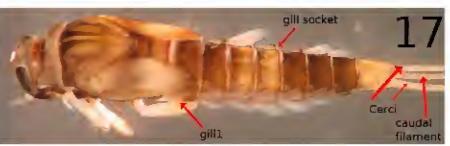
they will be black and the actual wing can often be observed developing inside. Occasionally the wing can be teased out of the wingpad and very gently spread apart to observe the developing venation. The hind wingpads, if present, are much smaller than, and are hidden underneath, the fore wingpads, but can usually be easily observed in mid- to late instar larvae. It may be necessary to lift the fore wingpads to see the hind wingpads in some specimens.



**Figure 16.** Lateral view of *Offadens instigatus*, showing fore- and hind wingpads.

The abdomen is composed of 10 segments, with the first segment adjacent to the thorax. Abdominal segments 1 or 2 – 7 have a lamella-like gill in the posterolateral corner. In all genera but *Cloeon*, the gill has a single plate-like lamella; in *Cloeon* segments 1 – 6 have two lamellae per gill and a single lamella on segment 7. Two genera, *Pseudocloeon* and *Platybaetis*, lack gills on segment 1. Gills are very prone to falling off specimens upon preservation, especially in higher concentrations of ethanol. An apparent absence of gill 1 should be checked by looking for a small sclerotised gill socket on the posterolateral corner.

The terga are the dorsal surfaces of the abdominal segments. The posterior margin of each tergite has a series of spines that can be of diagnostic use. The colour pattern on the terga of freshly collected specimens can be extremely useful for identifying species. In alcohol, however, the colour pattern tends to fade over time (the colour patterns will remain longer if the specimens are stored in the dark and in cool temperatures). Only nine sterna are apparent and the sternal surfaces are generally less useful taxonomically. At the apex of the abdomen is a pair of multisegmented cerci and a median caudal filament (vestigial in one Australian species). Collectively, the cerci and terminal filament are called the caudal filaments. At the base of the caudal filaments is a pair of paraprocts that have spines along their margins. Although the paraprocts can be of use for identifying species, they are not used in this key.



**Figure 17.** Dorsal view of *Offadens instigatus* with parts of abdomen labelled.

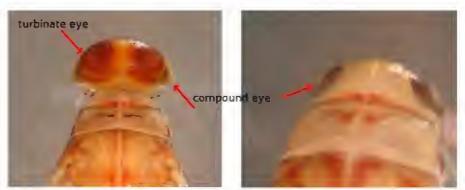
## **Setae and Spines**

There is much variation in the terminology used for describing the various setae and spines on insects. We take the view that a spine is an immovable outgrowth of the cuticle. Spines that are useful for diagnosing species include those on the posterior margins of the terga and the row of spines (denticles) on the tarsal claws.

Setae are multicellular, hairlike sensory organs that have a basal socket and are extremely variable in size and shape. Fine setae are small, fine hairlike setae. Most setae are somewhat hairlike and are referred to as just setae. Robust setae are generally stout setae that tend to be slightly sclerotised, often have a median longitudinal rib, and vary greatly in shape.

#### **Sexual Dimorphism in Larvae**

Adult male baetids are unusual in having the compound eyes divided into two parts – a small 'normal' compound eye and a greatly enlarged 'turbinate' dorsal portion that is usually red or orange in colour. The turbinate eyes can be seen developing even in mid instar male larvae (Fig 18). Female larvae have only a 'normal' compound eye (Figs 16 & 18).



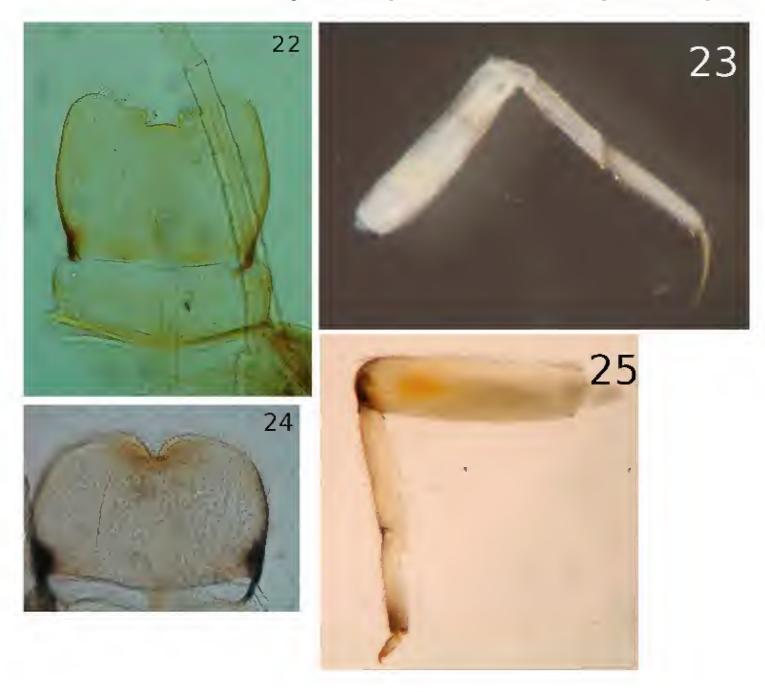
**Figure 18.** Eyes of male (left) and female (right) larvae of *Offadens* spARR1.

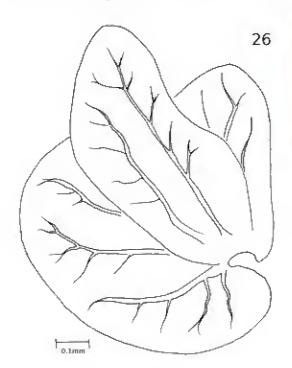
# Generic Key for Larvae of Australian Baetidae



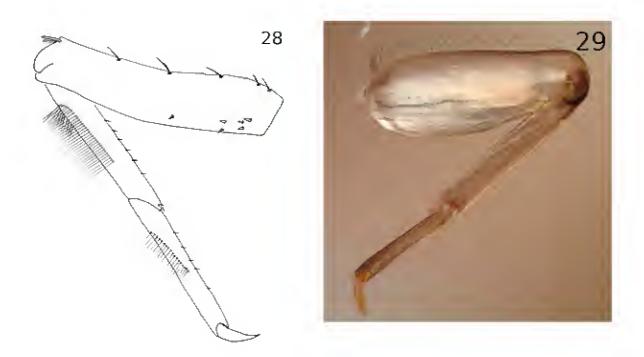














## Bungona Harker

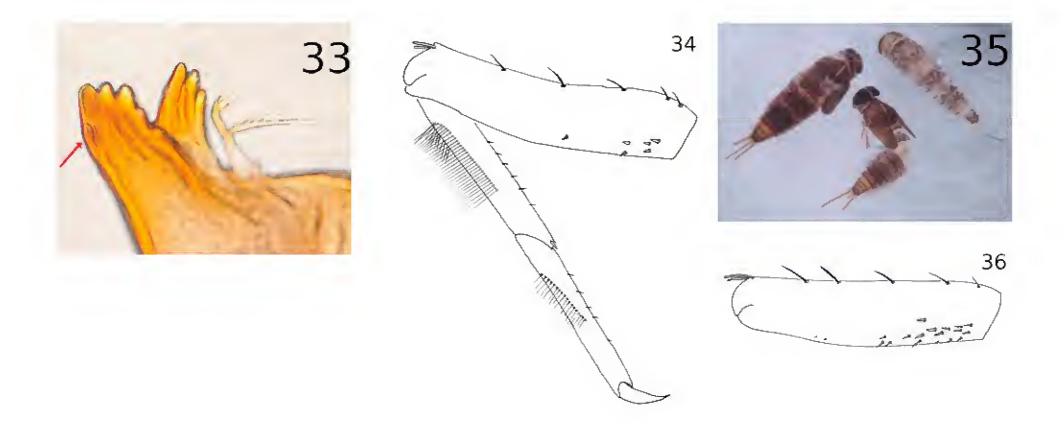
**Diagnosis:** Labrum with small U shaped notch; maxillae with two segments, sometimes appearing three segmented; glossae and paraglossae subequal in width; labial palps without median extension on segment 2; hind wingpads absent; tibiae with arc of very long fine setae; tarsi with arc of very long fine setae; tarsal claws with out denticles; abdominal sterna 4-6 with small tuft of sublateral fine setae; gills with single lamellae and present on segments 1-7; terminal filament subequal in length to cerci.

**Distribution:** North Queensland to Tasmania in running water.

**Species Composition:** *Bungona illiesi* (Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty, 1998); *B. narilla* Harker, 1957.

Discussion: Lugo-Ortiz and McCafferty (1998) described Cloeodes fustipalpus Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty and C. illiesi Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty from a small series of larvae from northern NSW and northern QLD, respectively. Both were synonymised with B. narilla by Suter and Pearson (2001), but genetic evidence showed the northern QLD specimens to be genetically distinct from those from other parts of eastern Australia. We recently collected adults from northern QLD that were different from those of B. narilla, and there are small but consistent differences in the larvae. As such, Webb and Suter (2010b) removed C. illiesi from synonymy with B. narilla and treated it as a distinct species in the genus Bungona. A global revision is needed to clarify the relationship among Cloeodes, Bungona, and related genera.

# Key to Species of Bungona



# Centroptilum Eaton

**Diagnosis**: Labrum with deep V shaped notch with basal pair of small denticles; maxillae three segmented; glossae and paraglossae subequal in width; hind wingpads present; tibiae and tarsi without arc of long fine setae; tarsal claws 0.6 - 0.9 X length of tarsi and with two rows of denticles; gills present on segments 1 - 7, gill 1 curved outwardly and apically pointed; terminal filament subequal in length to cerci.

**Distribution**: ACT, NSW, NT, SA, TAS, VIC. Occurs in sandy habitats in depositional areas of streams. *Centroptilum elongatum* tends to occur in lower elevation streams and rivers, whereas others such as the *C*. sp1 complex are often found in cooler, higher streams.

**Species Composition:** *C. elongatum* Suter, *C. collendum* Harker, *C.* sp6, *C.* spARR, *C.* sp1, *C.* spLogan, *C.* spBlackstripe, *C.* spNQLD, *C.* spTAS, *C.* spSnowy, *C.* spWonnangatta, C. spANIC1.

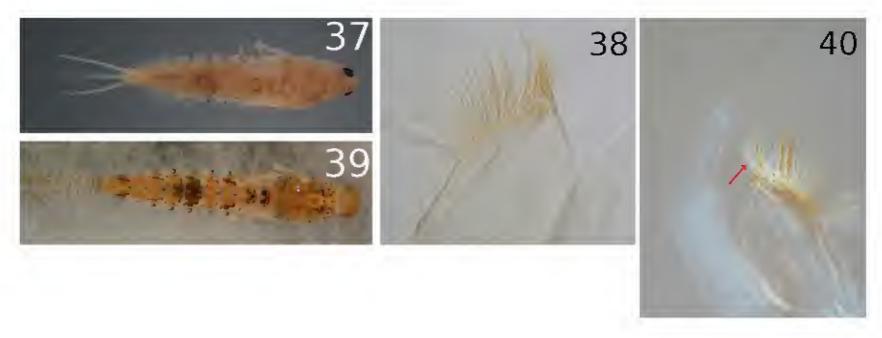
**Discussion:** Both morphological and molecular analyses show that the Australian species are not congeneric with *Centroptilum*, but are rather more closely related to the new world genus *Callibaetis* Eaton. A new genus is in the process of being described (Webb, Gattolliat, and Suter, in prep.).

Centroptilum spBlackstripe is only known from a single population in the Wimmera R. in SW Victoria and is sympatric with *C. elongatum* and highly similar morphologically. It is possible *C.* Blackstripe is a colour morph of *C. elongatum*, but we cannot test this until DNA becomes available.

Centroptilum sp1, C. spTAS, and C. spSnowy are all morphologically cryptic but were identified as being moderately distinct with mitochondrial DNA. There are slight differences in colour pattern of the adults of C. sp1 and C. spTAS, but the adult of C. spSnowy is unknown. It is possible this complex represents a single species, but until further information becomes available, we are treating them as distinct. Centroptilum Wonnangatta and C. sp6 are also morphologically similar to the C. sp1 complex, but genetically are highly distinct and belong to a different clade. The adults of both species are unknown, but we believe C. sp6 is equivalent to C. collendum based on distribution, and the adult of C. spWonnangatta may be the distinctive C. spANIC1 which has numerous red punctations on the abdomen.

Because the larvae of *C.* spANIC1 and *C. collendum* are unknown or insufficiently described, they are not included in the key.

# Key to Species of Centroptilum

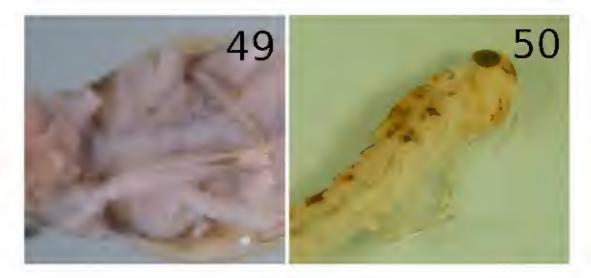


2a. TasmaniaC. spTAS2b. South AustraliaC. elongatum (in part)2c. Victoria, New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, SE Queensland33a. Outer margin of tibiae with robust setae (Fig 41); subapical pair of setae on femur usually sharply pointed43b. Outer margin of tibiae without robust setae (Fig 42); subapical pair of setae on femur usually short and blunt6













## Cloeon Leach

**Diagnosis:** Labrum with small U shaped notch; maxillary palps two or three segmented; paraglossae and glossae subequal in width; hind wingpads absent; tibiae and tarsi with out long arc of setae; tarsal claws with two rows of denticles; gills present on segments 1-7, those on 1-6 with double lamallae; terminal filament subequal in length to cerci.

**Distribution:** Australia wide, primarily in still waters or depositional areas of streams. Larvae frequently occur in dense submerged vegetation. In the Northern Territory, some larvae were found to occur in rapidly flowing portions of streams over bedrock.

**Species Composition:** *C. fluviatile* Ulmer, *C. nandirum* Harker, *C. paradieniense* Suter, *C. tasmaniae* Tillyard, *C. virens* Klapálek, *C.* spRedStripe, *C.* spBlackSpot, *C.* spYellow, *C.* spNT2, *C.* spBigGill, *C.* spQ3.

**Discussion:** This treatment of *Cloeon* should be considered preliminary as some species may have wider distributions than indicated here, additional species may yet remain undiscovered, and some species concepts may require alteration as more DNA evidence becomes available.

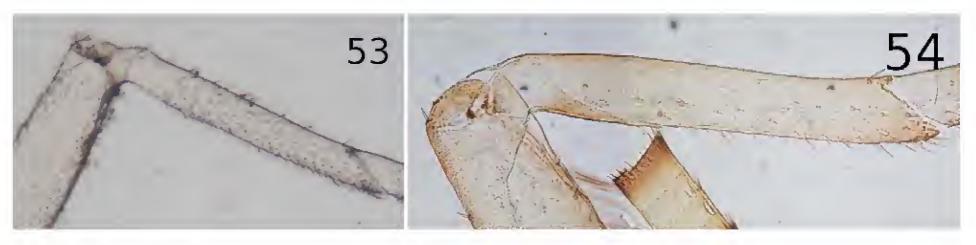
In the Northern Territory and Queensland, adults of *C*. *fluviatile* are highly variable and may represent a complex of species; in other parts of Australia the adults are relatively uniform in appearance. Additional sequencing of these specimens should assist in clarifying the status of the variants of *C. fluviatile*.

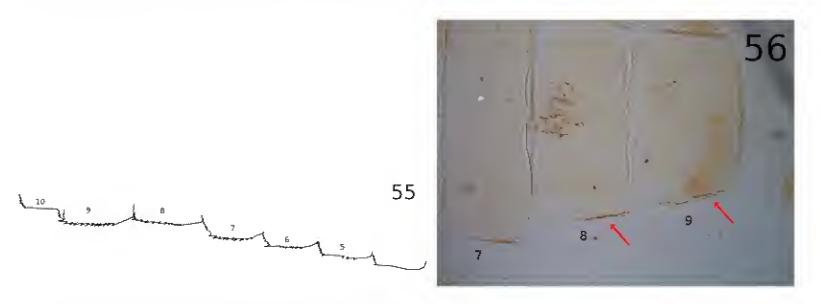
We have had little success in amplifying DNA from *Cloeon* specimens and so some larvae and adult associations have not yet been confirmed. The larvae of *C*. spBlackSpot remain unknown, but we are confident the larva *C*. spBigGill is equivalent to *C*. spBlackSpot. *C*. spQ3 is only known from larvae, but may be equivalent to larvae of *C*. spRedStripe from the Northern Territory, as they only differ in the presence of a small pair of dark spots near the anterior margin of the pro- and mesonota. No larva is known or suspected for *C*. spYellow or *C*. virens, and the description of *C*. nandirum is too vague to be of use so these species are not included in the key.

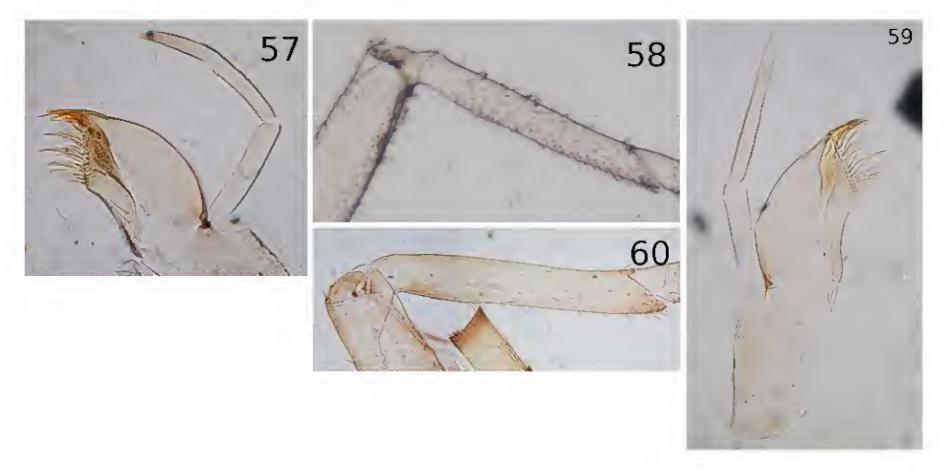
More than one species frequently occurs at the same locality, particularly in the Northern Territory and northern Queensland, so all specimens should be checked carefully.

# Key to Larvae of Cloeon

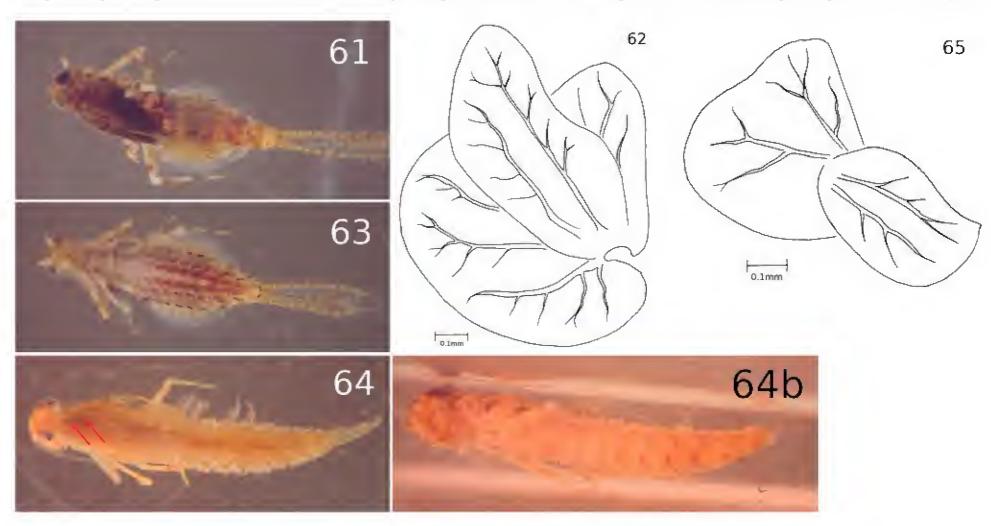
1a. Tasmania	
<b>1b</b> . Mainland Australia	3
2a. Outer margin of mid- and hindtibiae with more than 5 robust setae (Fig 53)	C. paradieniense (in part)
<b>2b</b> . Outer margin of mid- and hindtibiae with 0-3 robust setae (Fig 54)	C. tasmaniae







5a. Northern Queensland	6
<b>5b.</b> Northern Territory, northern Western Australia	7



7a. Maxillary palps distinctly 3 segmented (Fig 66); ventral row of submarginal robust setae on labrum simple (Fig 67)



## Offadens Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty

**Diagnosis:** Labrum with small U shaped notch; maxillary palps two segmented; labium with glossae and paraglossae subequal; hind wingpads present; tibiae and tarsi without arc of long fine setae; tarsal claws with single row of denticles and <0.5X length of tarsi; gills with single lamellae and present on segments 1-7; terminal filament subequal in length to cerci.

**Distribution:** Widespread in running waters.

Species Composition: O. baddamsae (Harker) [=Genus 2 spMV6, = Edmundsiops instigatus Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty], O. baddamsae (Harker) Tasmania, O. confluens (Harker) [=Genus 1 spMV5], O. frater (Tillyard) [=Genus 1 sp8], O. hickmani (Suter) [=Genus 2 spMV3, in part], O. instigatus (Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty), O. sobrinus Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty [=Genus 1 sp7], O. soror (Ulmer) [=Genus 1 WAsp1], O. G2Armidale1, O. G1ARR1, O. spEumerella, O. sphickmani-HighAltitude, O. sphickmani-LowAltitude, O. sphickmani-Gippsland, O. sphickmani-Otways, O. sphickmani-NNSW, O. sphickmani-CedarCreek, O. sphickmani-ManningR, O. spNariel, O. spSnowy, O. G2spMV1, O.G2spMV1-Timbarra, O. G2spMV2, O. G2sp9, O. G1spWA2, O.G4sp1, O. G1spMV4, O. G5sp2, O. sp16, O. sp17, O. sp18, O. sp20, O. spRingarooma

**Discussion:** Based on combined and separate analyses, both molecular and morphological characters show *Offadens* and *Edmundsiops* should be synonymised as *Offadens s.l.* is a lineage within *Edmundsiops*. *Offadens* is the older name and has priority.

DNA analyses show extensive divergence within morphological species previously identified. *O. hickmani*, for example is composed of 8 distinct mtDNA lineages based on sequencing >100 specimens. Sequences of two nuclear markers show these lineages to be reproductively isolated. A single individual has been found with a nuclear haplotype from a different mtDNA lineage, with which it was sympatric. Most of the mtDNA lineages are geographically isolated, but *O. sphickmani*Low Altitude is quite widespread throughout southern NSW and VIC and can be sympatic with either *O. sphickmani* HighAltitude or *O. sphickmani*Otway and *O. sphickmani*NNSW is sympatic with *O.* 

*sphickmani*ManningR. *O. sphickmani*ManningR and *O. sphickmani*CedarCreek are known only from single individuals at this time.

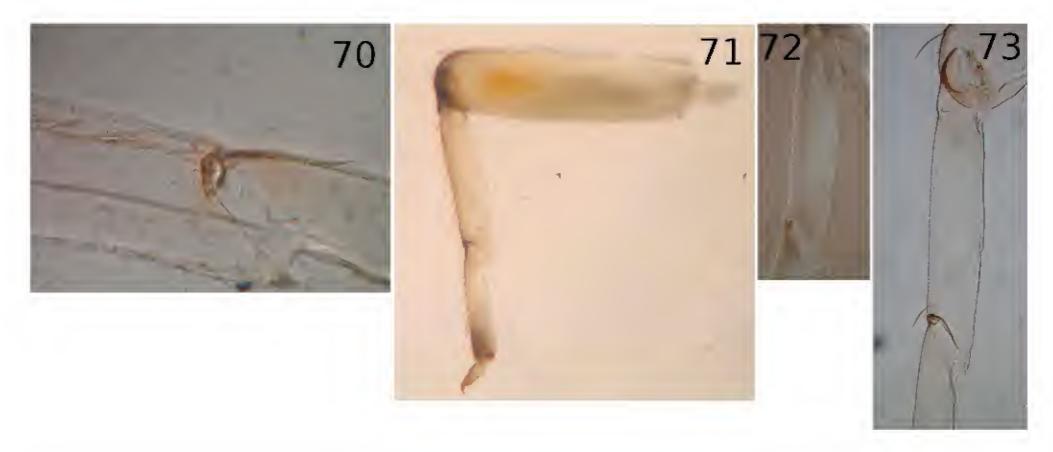
All species occurring in Tasmania appear to be different from species occurring on the mainland based on molecular evidence. The amount of divergence indicates this separation occurred several million years ago and predates the isolation of Tasmania from the mainland by rising sea levels at the end of the Pleistocene.

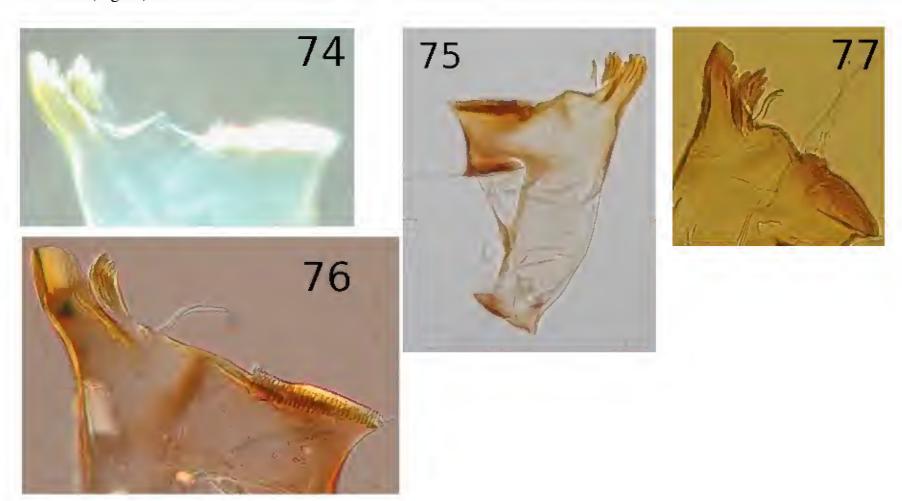
In other morphologically defined species, there are fewer cryptic species and most are Tasmania/mainland pairs. Other cryptic pairs include *O. frater | O.* spSnowy, *O.* spRingarooma *| O.* spNariel, In other cases, such as *O.* spRingarooma/ *O.*spNariel vs *O. frater | O.* spSnowy, the larvae appear identical but the adult stages differ.

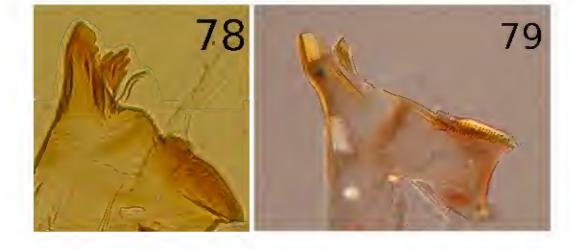
Offadens spG2MV1 has two divergent mtDNA lineages, one of which is only known from the Timbarra River in eastern Victoria. We have not found any morphological characters to separate these groups. Even within the 'normal' O. spG2MV1 there is considerable divergence among populations. This species tends to occur at higher altitudes so there are few chances for migration among populations. Populations on Mt. Buller, VIC, for example, differ from the population around Falls Creek, VIC by 4 - 5%. Haplotypes of the nuclear marker ITS1 are shared among these populations, as well as with the Timbarra R population. It is unclear if these shared haplotypes are evidence of reproduction among populations via male dispersal or if this is a case of incomplete lineage sorting. Additional, more variable, nuclear markers or the use of allozymes may clarify the status of these populations. For the time being, we consider there to be two species.

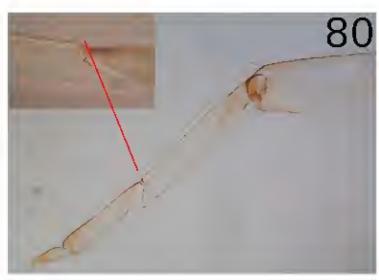
The larva previously known as Genus 2 spMV6 was recently found to be equivalent to *Edmundsiops baddamsae* (Harker)(Webb and Suter, 2010a), and is now treated as *Offadens baddamsae* **n.comb**. Furthermore, the holotype of *E. instigatus* was found to be equivalent to *O. baddamsae* and so the species were synonymised (Webb and Suter 2010a). Webb and Suter (2010a) also examined material from the type locality of *Offadens confluens* (Harker) and found the larva to be equivalent to a more restrictive concept of Genus 1 spMV5 *sensu* Suter (1997).

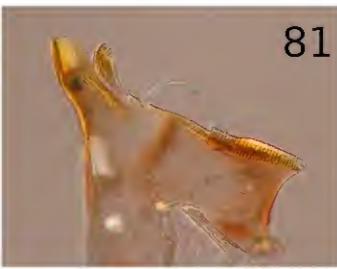
## Key to Offadens Species

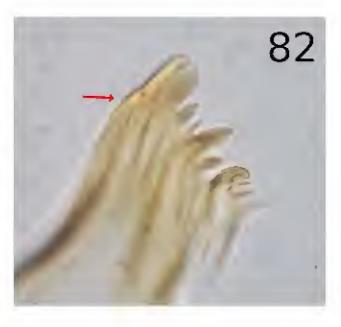




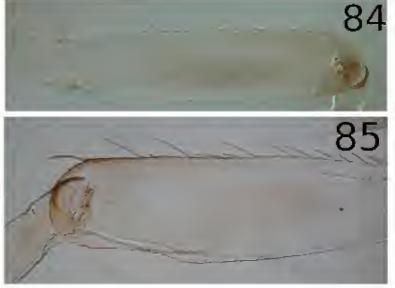






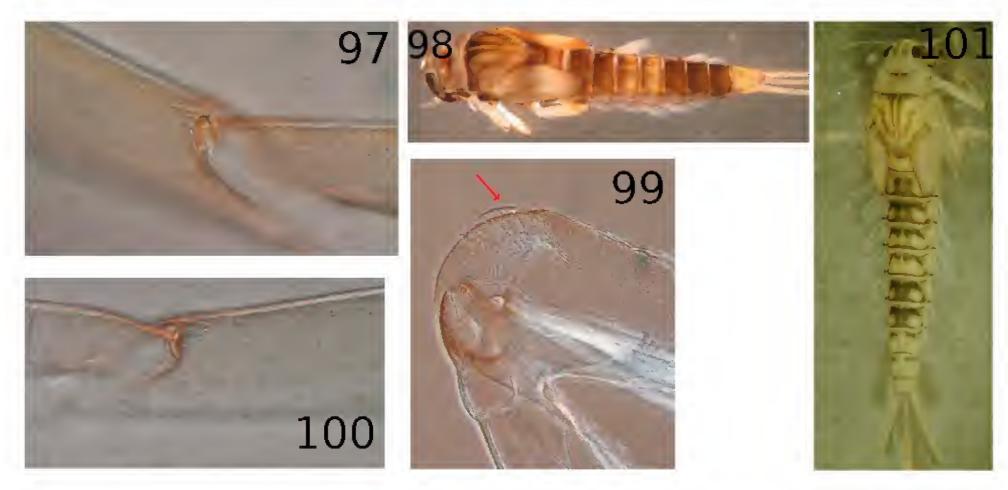




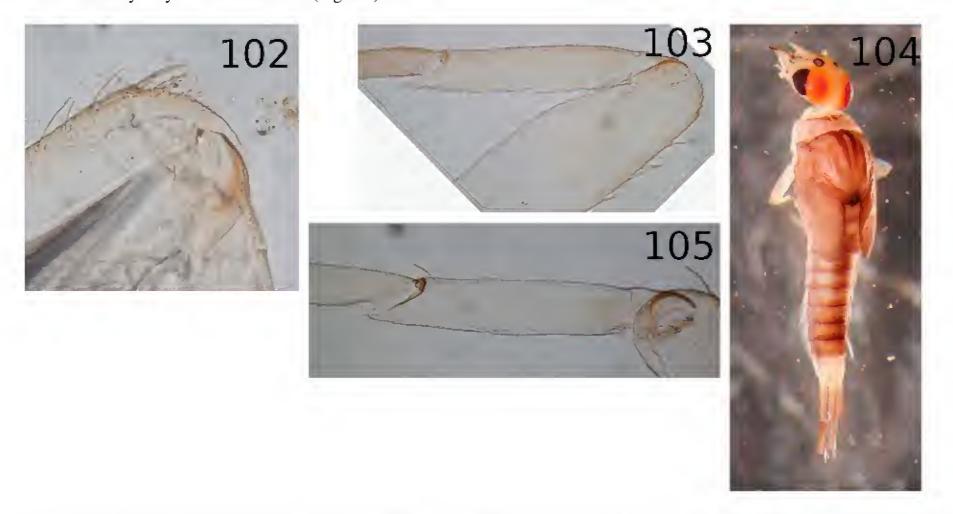


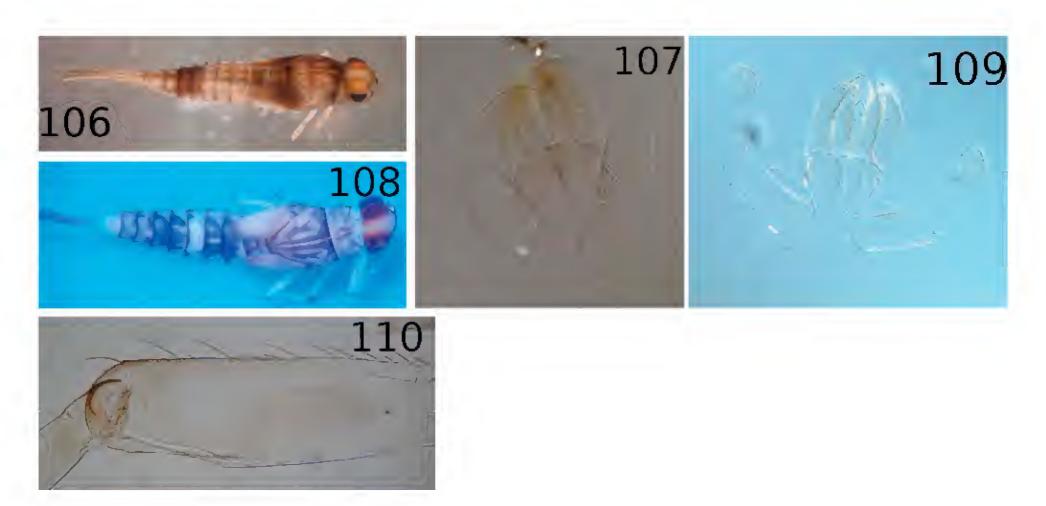




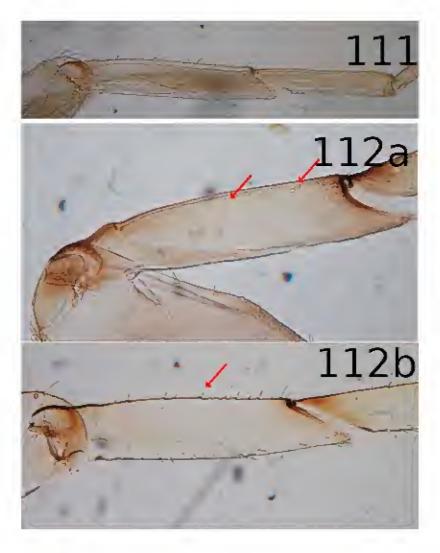


10a. TasmaniaO. baddamsae Tasmania10b. SE Queensland to VictoriaO. baddamsae mainland





13a. Western Australia1413b. Not Western Australia1514a. Tibiae with row of long robust setae on outer margin (Fig 111); NW Western AustraliaO. G1spWA214b. Tibiae with row of short robust setae on outer margin (Fig 112a), occasionally with long robust setae (Fig 112b); throughout western Western AustraliaO. soror







16a.	Tasmania	17
16b.	Mainland	18

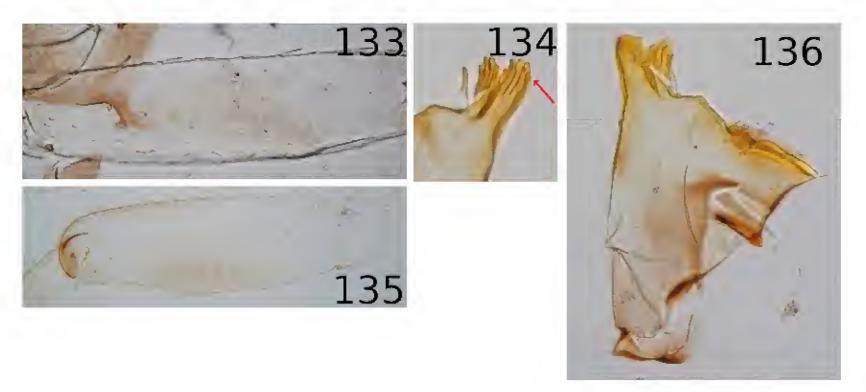












smania	
<b>23b</b> . Victoria	24
23c. New South Wales, possibly SE Queensland	26
<b>24a</b> . Otways and Grampians	i Otways, <i>O.hickmani</i> LowAltitude
<b>24b</b> . Gippsland	O.hickmani Gippsland
24c. Great Dividing Range not in Gippsland	25
25a. Usually at altitudes >800m, but may occur lower in small fast flowing streams	O.hickmani HighAltitude
25b. Usually at altitudes <800m, but may occur higher in slower, warmer streams	
<b>26a</b> . South of Hunter River	27
<b>26b</b> . North of Hunter River	anningR, O.hickmani CedarCreek
27a. Usually at altitudes >800m, but may occur lower in small fast flowing streams	O.hickmani HighAltitude
27b. Usually at altitudes <800m, but may occur higher in slower, warmer streams	
28a. Timbarra River, VIC, and possibly other streams on eastern side of Great Dividing Range in	northern Victoria
28b. New South Wales, western side of Great Dividing Range in Victoria	

## Platybaetis Müller-Liebenau

**Diagnosis:** Head prognathous with distinct right angle between labrum and frons; labrum with small U shaped notch; maxillae two segmented; paraglossae much wider than glossae; hind wingpads absent; tarsal claws with single row of denticles and < 0.5X length of tarsi; gills with single lamellae and present on segmens 2-7; terminal filament vestigial.

**Distribution:** fast flowing streams in Northern Territory and Northern Queensland.

**Species Composition:** *P. gagadjuensis* 

**Discussion:** Both morphological and molecular characters show the Australian species to be more closely related to *Pseudocloeon* than true *Platybaetis*. It is unclear at this time if a new genus should be established or if *P. gagadjuensis* should be placed in *Pseudocloeon*. A global analysis of the relationships among *Pseudocloeon* and other *Baetis*-complex genera is required as the current concept of *Pseudocloeon* is polyphyletic.

## Pseudocloeon Klapálek

**Diagnosis:** Labrum with small U shaped notch; maxillae two segmented; paraglossae much wider than glossae; hind wingpads absent; tarsal claws with single row of denticles and < 0.5X length of tarsi; gills with single lamellae and present on segmens 2-7; terminal filament subequal in length to cerci.

**Distribution:** mostly northern Australia, but *P. hypodelum* occurs as far south as Victoria.

**Species Composition:** *P. hypodelum* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty [=Genus 3 sp4], *P. inconspicuum* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty [= Genus 3 sp2], *P. plectile* Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty [=Genus 3 sp3], *P.* sp5.

**Discussion:** The generic concept of *Pseudocloeon* was revised by Lugo-Ortiz *et al.* (1999), but most workers believe this concept to be polyphyletic. The type species of *Pseudocloeon*, *P. kraepelini* Klapálek was described from Java and has been reported from Australia. It is likely however, that the Australian report was based on a misidentification as no adults of Australian *Pseudocloeon* have been described and species identification of adult baetids can rarely be done with certainty.

Two species were described by Lugo-Ortiz and McCafferty (Lugo-Ortiz *et al.* 1999) based on single specimens collected from Mt. Kosciuszko at an elevation of 1700m. Extensive collections have yielded no additional specimens from this area, and being a tropical group, are not expected to occur in high altitude alpine streams. It is likely that the labels on the type specimens are incorrect and the specimens actually came from northern Queensland or the Northern Territory.

Pseduocloeon inconspicuum has two divergent lineages in northern Queensland based on mtDNA, although we have only sequenced a small number of specimens. Although we only have a small number of specimens, there appears to be a consistent size difference between the two forms, but we have not yet found other morphological differences. For the time being, we are keying these out separately. We have not yet sequenced specimens from the Northern Territory.

Pseudocloeon hypodelum was initially described from Queensland, but it is now known from as far south as Victoria, where it is abundant in warmer rivers such as the lower Ovens and Broken Rivers. P. sp5 is unique in Australia in having a short labrum with many sharp robust setae on the dorsal surface; in other characters, it is similar to the PNG species P. xeniolum Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty and they may be closely related

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# Key to Species of Pseudocloeon





**3a.** Up to 3.2mm; gills without dark tracheae**P. inconspicuum small3b.** Up to 4.8mm; gills with dark tracheae**P. inconspicuum large** 



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